

# **NAVY** *RECRUITER* *magazine*

*The Magazine for Navy Recruiters*

*November-December 2009*

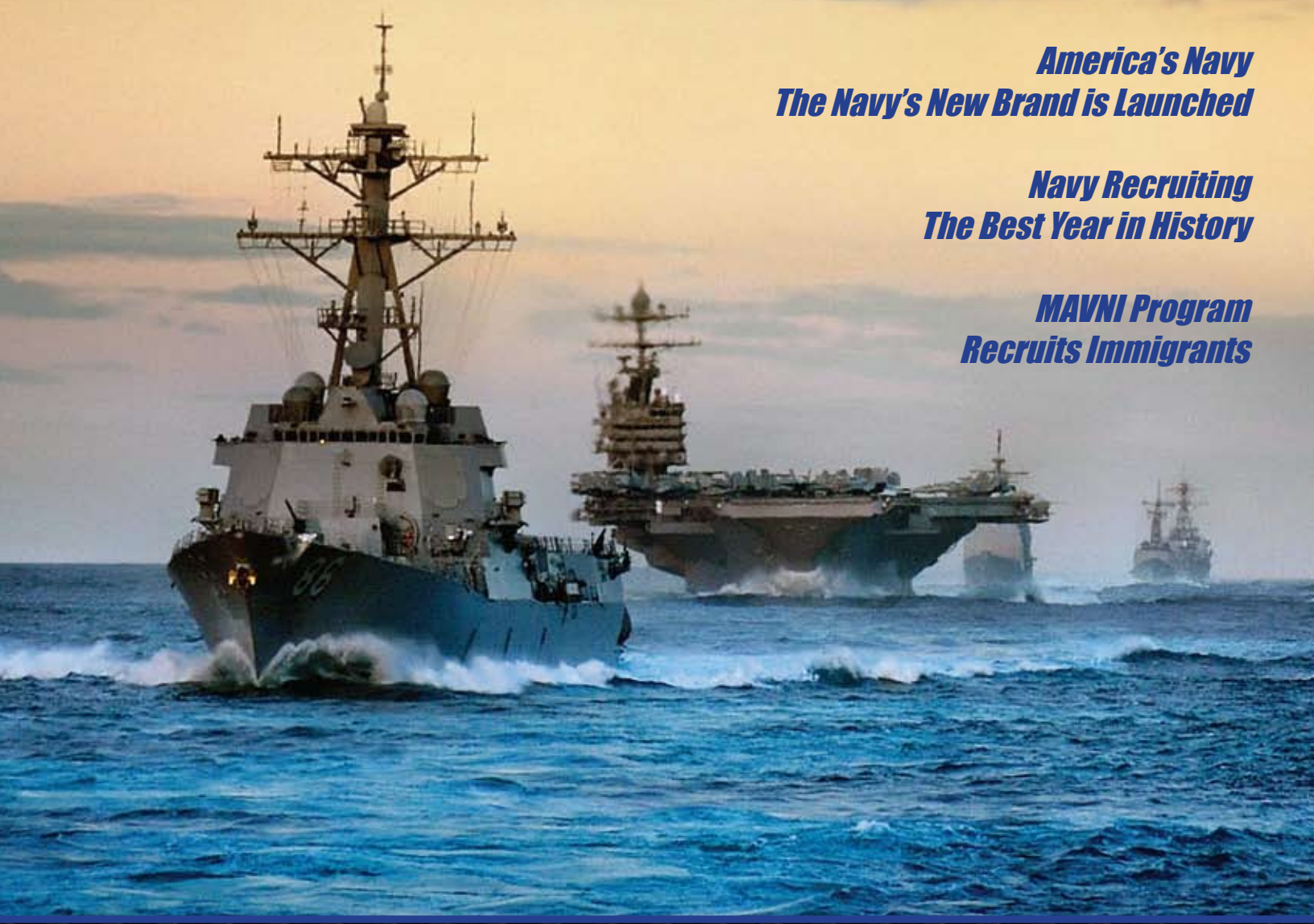
*Vol. 57 No. 6*

***Navy Recruiting Command  
Rear Admiral Faller Takes Charge***

***America's Navy  
The Navy's New Brand is Launched***

***Navy Recruiting  
The Best Year in History***

***MAVNI Program  
Recruits Immigrants***



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AMERICA'S  
**NAVY**

A GLOBAL FORCE FOR GOOD.™



# **NAVY RECRUITER** *magazine*

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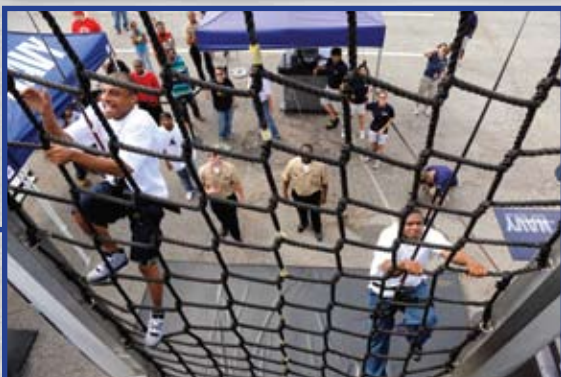
# AMERICA'S NAVY

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### Front cover:

In the Pacific Ocean, Carrier Strike Group 9 protects global commerce by helping to keep key shipping lanes open. This image was used on recruiting posters as part of the Navy's new brand. Read more about the new brand on page 6.

### Back cover:

"577,000 Links in the World's Strongest Chain." This poster depicting the strength of America's Navy is part of the Navy's new brand. Read more about the new brand on page 6.

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[HTTP://www.cnrc.navy.mil](http://www.cnrc.navy.mil)



# A Word From the Admiral



Shipmates:

I'm proud to be part of the world's greatest recruiting team. We are off to a terrific start to FY10. Thanks for what you and your families do each and every day in service to our Navy and nation. My wife Martha and I want to wish you a safe and happy holiday season. Here's to a successful and healthy New Year.

By now, you should have seen "The Calling" video launched as part of our new brand "America's Navy - A global force for good." The video and other products are available at [www.navy.com/gffg](http://www.navy.com/gffg). On the horizon, a new action Web video entitled "Feel the Rush" is also available and three new television commercials entitled "The Shield," "Flags," and "My Navy" are under production and will begin airing in early 2010.

Our new brand "America's Navy - A global force for good," along with the new advertising video "The Calling," is more than a recruiting slogan. It's a message to remind our Sailors in the Navy and our citizens across this great country what good we can do around the world to help keep us safe at home. The words

"a global force for good" come directly from our maritime strategy. "Good" runs the full spectrum of warfare from combat operations to humanitarian assistance. The call to serve reflects the sense of fulfillment we all feel when we proudly work together serving our Navy and nation. Some of you may remember a few of the previous seven slogans such as "Accelerate Your Life" (2001-09), "Let the Journey Begin" (1996-2000), "Navy. It's not just a job, it's an adventure" (1976-86), and "Be Someone Special" (1973-75).

Our Sailors were the true force behind the brand creation. Their inputs helped us capture a brand that shows Navy operations around the globe providing

security for our citizens at home. Eighteen months of research went into the development of the new brand.

The research showed that today's Sailors, along with men and women considering serving in the Navy, want to make a positive difference in their

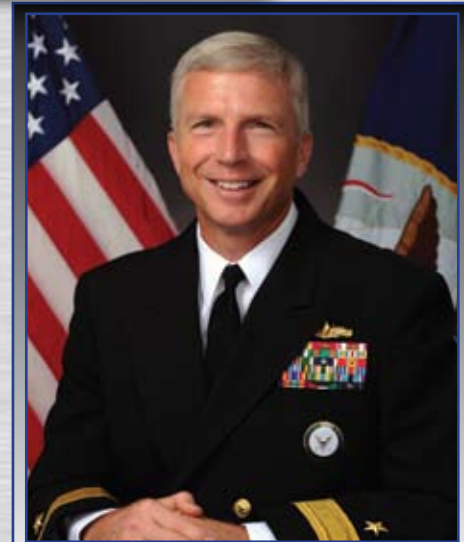
world. In addition to the input our Sailors provided, we also tied our Navy's new brand to our current maritime strategy, which runs the gamut from humanitarian

assistance, to forward presence, to power projection. We wanted to capture the part of the enduring strategy that applies to maritime power protecting vital U. S. interests in an increasingly interconnected and uncertain world.

More information about our maritime strategy is available at [www.navy.mil/maritime](http://www.navy.mil/maritime).

This is our new brand, shipmates. I know you'll take pride in the fact that each of you make up America's Navy and are indeed part of a global force for good. The push is on to build Navy awareness and ready the battle space in your respective districts to enhance our recruiting efforts for months and years into the future. I appreciate what you do everyday, and know that you'll

continue to bring in the best and brightest who want to fulfill the call to serve in America's Navy - A global force for good. We are the greatest recruiting team in the world's greatest Navy.



Rear Admiral Craig S. Faller  
Commander, Navy Recruiting Command







# CHANGE OF COMMAND

## REAR ADMIRAL FALLER TAKES CHARGE OF NRC

*Story by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jared Hill, NRC Public Affairs  
Photo by Chris Desmond, NRC*

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** – Rear Adm. Craig Faller relieved Rear Adm. Robin Braun as commander of Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) Oct. 6 at a change of charge ceremony held at the Navy Mid-South Conference Center.

Braun was relieved by Faller after leading the command through the final months of the most successful year in recruiting history.

“Thank you to everybody for making this year such a banner year for Navy Recruiting, and for making it such a special tour for me. It has been incredible,” said Braun, who has since reported to Total Force Management, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Dominance (N2/N6).

“Adm. Braun, thank you for such a tremendous turnover. Clearly you poured your heart and soul in everything you did for our Navy and our command, and I’m grateful for that,” said Faller. “It is an honor to be able to serve on this team, and I pledge my utmost loyalty, passion, dedication and integrity to our mission. I look forward to moving out at full speed.”

A native of Fryburg, Penn., Faller graduated in 1983 from the United States Naval Academy, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Systems Engineering. He has served in recent years as executive assistant to Adm. William Fallon at U. S. Pacific Command and U. S.

Central Command, special assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations to the Joint Staff Strategy Working Group, and executive assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations.

In addition to receiving Faller as commander, NRC has a new deputy commander, Rear Adm. Robin L. Graf, who reports from the J9 Directorate at U. S. Joint Forces Command. A native of Simsbury, Conn., Graf attended Cornell University, graduating in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. She was commissioned in 1981 upon graduation from Officer Candidate School in Newport, R.I.



Rear Adm. Craig Faller addresses the crowd at the change of charge ceremony on Oct. 6 when he assumed command of NRC. Faller reports to NRC from Washington, D.C., where he was on the Chief of Naval Operations staff.





# NRC Launches New Brand

*From NRC Public Affairs*

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** – Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) released its new brand, America's Navy – A global force for good, on Oct. 1.

The battle for the best and brightest in today's recruiting marketplace often comes down to one question from a potential recruit: "Why should I consider joining the Navy?"

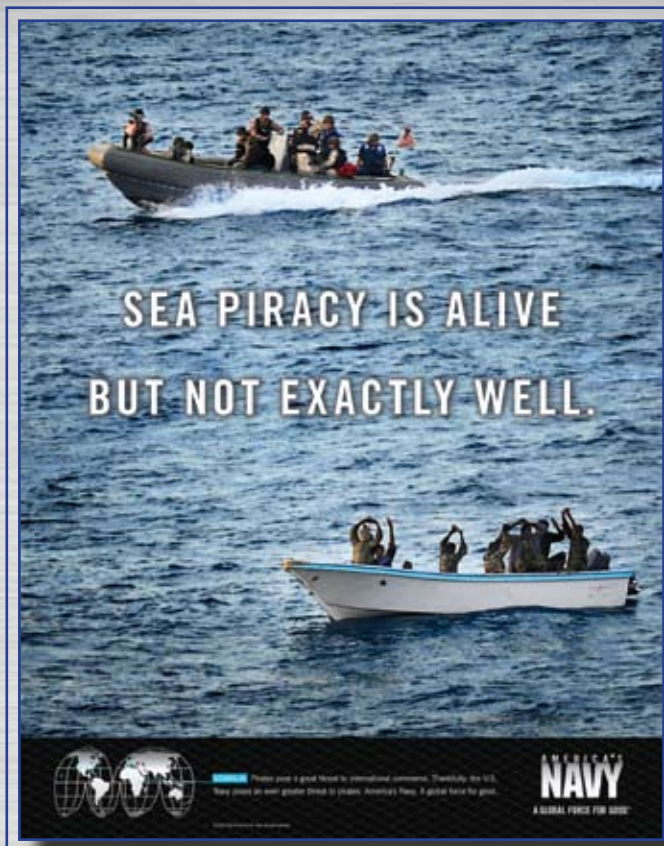
NRC and its advertising agency, Campbell-Ewald, developed a new approach to attract and ultimately enlist and commission new recruits and officers – a call to serve, drawing on the honor, courage, and commitment of generations past and present who value service before self.

According to Rear Adm. Craig S. Faller, commander, NRC, "The new brand, along with the new advertising video 'The Calling,' is designed to reach into the soul and rekindle the call to serve. It's more than a recruiting slogan. It's a message to remind our Sailors in the Navy and our citizens across this great country what good we can do around the world to help keep us safe at home."

Sailors were the force behind the brand creation as it was their inputs that helped capture a brand that shows Navy efforts around the globe providing security for our citizens at home.

Eighteen months of research went into the development of the new brand. The research showed

that today's Sailors, along with men and women considering serving in the Navy, want to make a positive difference in their world.



Today's new recruits have a broad understanding of how their service interacts in the global context. Faller said, "We want our new Navy brand to speak directly to this generation of young people who are called to put service before self."

Besides Sailor inputs, the new brand was tied to our current maritime strategy, which runs the gamut from humanitarian assistance, to forward presence, to power projection.

"We wanted to capture the part of the enduring strategy that applies to maritime power protecting vital U.S. interests in an increasingly interconnected and uncertain world.

Our security, stability and seapower focuses on opportunities – not threats; on optimism – not fear; and on confidence – not doubt," said Faller.

Our new brand was designed to help recruiters build our Navy's future, one Sailor at a time. It is hoped it will also help all Americans better understand how their Navy does good around the world, every day, to protect our safety at home.

For more information about our Navy's new brand, visit [www.navy.com/gffg](http://www.navy.com/gffg).





# How the Navy Changed My Life...

*By Lt. Delmy Cordon, Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs*

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** – My name is Delmy Cordon and I'm a lieutenant in the United States Navy.

I was born in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. My father left for the United States when I was six years old and I only saw him several times a year. He worked hard doing menial but honest work, sending every cent he could back home to his family. He was our sole source of support and he never let us down.

My mother managed as best she could in his absence, and in our eyes and hearts, she succeeded in every way. My roots are humble but strong and deep. In my small world what mattered most was my loving family and everything else was irrelevant.

Our family joined my father in the United States in 1990 in his two-bedroom apartment in a drug and crime-ridden neighborhood in New Orleans, La. I was 13 and didn't know any English.

The culture shock was shattering. I took public transportation to school and got offered drugs many times just waiting for the bus. I never wavered, hesitated, or succumbed to the pressure. I simply said "No!" keeping my mother's image tattooed in my mind, her words guiding me to do the right thing.

My first year in high school was an ordeal. Not knowing the language put me at a disadvantage and affected my grades and impeding interaction with the other students. I felt alone and out of place. It was also a shock to my self-esteem because in Honduras I was an A+ student. It seemed difficult to imagine the American dream.

I was thankful to have a roof over my head and parents who loved me unconditionally, and I knew things would get better.

"Education is power," my dad repeated like a mantra. Following his mantra, I learned English, graduated from high school and went to the University of New Orleans.

During my second year of college, I realized I wanted to help my parents financially. The only choice I felt I had was to quit college and get a full-time job. Then I learned of the opportunities for higher education offered by the U. S. Navy, especially the Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program (BDCP). The BDCP is a scholarship

opportunity that allows students to go to a four-year university of their choice, providing financial assistance up to \$155,000 that can be used to cover tuition, books, rent, and living expenses. The program allows participants to attend college without having to wear a uniform. It seemed like a dream come true.

When I decided to join the Navy, my parents had mixed emotions. My father had strong convictions about women's roles in the military but with time he saw the changes in me. I became more assertive, cultured, and eloquent. He liked what he saw and changed his mind. Now my parents are the strongest supporters of my naval career.

During my career, I've served on board several ships as well as at the Naval Medical Center, San Diego. In 2004, I changed career fields from the Supply Corps to Human Resources, reporting to Millington as Navy project officer. Currently, I'm assigned to the Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs Office.

The American dream seemed so elusive at 13 years of age, yet 20 years later I can say that I've made it a reality. The Navy has provided me the training, education, and leadership tools to be successful and make a difference.

I completed my master's degree and I'm currently working on my doctorate. I've had the opportunity to travel the world and live the Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. I am also happily married with one child.

It is an immense privilege to serve the country that has given me so much. I am proud to call myself a United States Navy officer.







# Navy Recruiting Completes Most Successful Year in Recruiting History

Story and photo by Mass Communication 3rd Class Jared Hill, NRC Public Affairs

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** – Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) closed out fiscal year 2009 by meeting or exceeding all recruiting benchmarks for the year.

“I am proud to report that we have just completed the most successful year ever in Navy Recruiting history,” said Capt. Teriann Sammis, NRC’s

Director of Operations. “The Navy recruiting team has not only met the mission, they have blown it out of the water. A clean sweep for the month, the quarter, and the year,” she said.

Enlisted and officer recruiting missions crossed the monthly and fiscal year finish line victorious for the second year in a row.



Rear Adm. Robin Braun (center), former commander, Navy Recruiting Command (NRC), rings the quarterdeck bell with newly arriving personnel during a ceremony held in celebration of NRC’s most successful recruiting year in history. NRC’s quarterdeck bell is rung at the end of each month if the recruiting goals set for that month are successfully met. This particular celebration on Oct. 1 marked 29 consecutive months of enlisted recruiting successes.

“Even with a 17 percent goal increase in active contract medical programs and a 45 percent increase in reserve contract medical programs, we made significant improvements over last year’s accessions with a clean sweep of the ‘Big Four’ programs,” stated Sammis.

“Most notably this year, our emphasis on nuclear and medical officer





recruiting paid big dividends: We achieved goal in every active component medical program assigned with the exception of active component Medical Corps direct," said Rear Adm. Robin Braun, former commander, NRC.

"Equally as important, we continued to be successful in reserve officer recruiting," Braun added. "We continued a positive trend by accessing more officers in fiscal year 2009 than 2008. Even with the huge increase in reserve component medical programs, we met or exceeded last year's numbers in every medical program category."

Not only has fiscal year 2009 been a record breaking year, it has set up 2010 for success.

"I am very proud of the success of my entire recruiting team. We learned many valuable lessons during this record-breaking year that will allow us to continue our phenomenal mission attainment while meeting the needs of the Navy," commented Braun.



# NRD RALEIGH SAILORS JOIN IN PINNING CEREMONY FOR NEW CHIEFS



*Story and photo by Kelly Wright, NRD Raleigh Public Affairs*

**WILMINGTON, N.C.** – Eleven Sailors from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Raleigh transitioned to khaki uniforms and combination covers for the first time during a chief petty officer pinning ceremony at the Battleship *North Carolina* Memorial on Sept. 16.

Family members and friends pinned two gold anchors on each newly appointed chief's uniform and the Sailors' sponsors placed the combination covers on their heads during the ceremony.



The pinning ceremony is a tradition unique to the Navy, dating back to 1893 when the chief petty officer pay grade was created. Participating in the joint ceremony were personnel from NRD Raleigh, Military Entrance Processing Station Raleigh, and Navy Operational Support Center Wilmington.

"This is quite an achievement as only 10 percent of the total Navy is made up of chief petty officers. The selection process for chief is highly competitive and we make every effort to select only the best of the best," said NRD Raleigh Command Master Chief James Passaretti during the ceremony.



Following their pinning ceremony on board the Battleship *North Carolina* Memorial, 11 new chiefs from NRD Raleigh pose to capture this special moment in their careers.



# First MAVNI Program Commissioning Goes to Romania Native

the new  
**Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest**  
program

*By Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jared Hill, NRC Public Affairs*

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** – Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Houston recruited the first foreign applicant for commissioned naval service through the Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest (MAVNI) Program.

Dr. Octavian R. Adam, 32, took the oath of enlistment at NRD Houston Aug. 28.

Born and educated in Romania, Adam graduated from medical school in Bucharest at the age of 26, and moved to the U.S. to work and continue his studies. He has worked in various hospitals around the country and his experiences have influenced his desire to serve.

“Through these experiences I have grown to appreciate and love America in its diversity and history, and I would be honored to serve in the U.S. Navy and provide the best medical care for American men and women who protect this great country,” Adam said.

The MAVNI Program was authorized by the Secretary of Defense in 2008 to allow military services to recruit certain legal aliens whose skills are considered vital to national interest.

“The point of the MAVNI Program is citizenship acceleration for individuals with certain medical or linguistic proficiencies who want to serve in the U.S. military,” said Lt. David De La Rosa, a Medical Corps officer recruiter out of NRD Houston. “Normally, it would take four to five years for a person seeking citizenship to get naturalized. We are accelerating this process to within six months.” Non-U.S. citizens have served

in the military since the Revolutionary War. Today, about 29,000 non-U.S. citizens serve in uniform and approximately 8,000 legal, permanent-resident aliens enlist each year.

“He is the first person enlisting through the [MAVNI] program who will be commissioned as a Medical Corps officer,” said Lt. Osmel Alfonso, Navy Recruiting Command’s Medical Corps Program manager. Alfonso has been working with De La Rosa and Adam, providing guidance through the accession process of the program.

According to Alfonso, Adam meets the professional qualifications for serving, and the Navy is currently in the process of making sure that he’s qualified for naturalization. His expertise is considered vital to national interest and will greatly benefit the Navy’s

mission. “He is a highly-skilled physician, one experienced with patients who have movement disorders,” Alfonso added.

“This MAVNI Program is allowing us access to a population of health care professionals who normally wouldn’t be eligible for commissioning in the Navy,” said De La Rosa. With this population available for recruiting, the Navy can more effectively meet its recruiting goals.

“The dream for every immigrant is to become a citizen of the United States, and there is no greater honor than to naturalize by serving in the U.S. armed forces,” said Adam. “The MAVNI program provides that opportunity through its accelerated path towards citizenship,” he added.



NRD Houston recruited the first foreign applicant for commissioned naval service through the MAVNI Program. Born and educated in Romania, Dr. Octavian R. Adam has been living in the United States for six years. (U.S. Navy Photo)





# Kenya Native First to Enlist Under MAVNI Program

the new  
**Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest**  
program

*By Pam Branch, NRC Public Affairs*

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** – Gilbert Nalelia became the first person to enlist in the Navy under the Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest (MAVNI) Pilot Program on Oct. 6.

Nalelia reports to boot camp Dec. 8, and committed to four years of active duty and four years of service in the Navy Reserves.

Navy Recruiting Command established guidelines on Aug. 14 for the MAVNI Pilot Program following the Secretary of Defense's authorization to recruit legal, non-immigrant aliens with special language and associated cultural backgrounds to fill special operations and special operations support billets.

A native of Kenya, Nalelia received his master's degree in Poland. He has lived in Spokane, Wash., since Sept. 2007, where he's been an adjunct instructor at Gonzaga University. The rest of his family remains in Kenya.

MAVNI requires that the applicant possess the ability to read, speak, and understand the English language. Nalelia is proficient in English since Kenya is an English colony, and it is one of their official languages. English is even used in Kenya schools so every student becomes fluent once they start school.

He was recruited for his knowledge of Swahili. Other needed languages under the MAVNI program are: Arabic (to include the following regional dialects: Algerian, Egyptian, Gulf, Lebanese, Libyan, Maghrebi, Modern Standard Arabic, Moroccan, North Levantine, Sudanese, Tunisian, Syrian, and Yemeni), Hausa, Igbo, Korean, Pashtu/Pashto, Persian Afghan (Dari), Persian Iranian (Farsi), Somali, Urdu and Yoruba.

Nalelia learned about MAVNI from a friend who was a SEAL in the 1960s and had read about the program. His interest was peaked. The ball got rolling when he was at a Spokane shopping mall in August and

was approached by Navy recruiter, Machinist's Mate (SW) 1st Class Bennie Cooley of Navy Recruiting Station Opportunity in Spokane.

According to Nalelia, "It is the dream of every immigrant to become a naturalized citizen. To become a citizen of the United States through the armed forces is a great thing. I feel very honored."

Since MAVNI reduces the length of naturalization time from the normal five years to six months, it can be an advantageous program for immigrants that qualify. To learn more, refer to COMNAVCRUITCOMINST 1133.13.



Gilbert Nalelia (right) and Navy recruiter, Machinist's Mate (SW) 1st Class Bennie Cooley of Navy Recruiting Station Opportunity in Spokane, discuss the MAVNI Pilot Program. Nalelia is the first person to join the Navy under this particular program which seeks personnel with special language and cultural skills. He reports to boot camp in December. (Courtesy photo)







# **\$555 Million** **DoD Homeowners** **Assistance Program** **Details Announced**

## ***From the Department of Defense***

On Sept. 30 the Department of Defense (DoD) announced details for the temporary expansion of the Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP). Using \$555 million in funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), this program is designed to partially reimburse eligible military personnel, surviving spouses, and federal civilian employees whose service to the nation has required them to relocate and sell their primary residence at a loss.

Potential eligible personnel include:

- Active and former service members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard;
- Civilian employees of the DoD, Coast Guard, and non-appropriated fund activities; and
- Surviving spouses of both fallen service members and civilian employees.

Potential eligible personnel who have sold a primary home at a loss or are considering selling their home are encouraged to visit the DoD HAP Web site (<http://hap.usace.army.mil>) to check specific program criteria, and if eligible, apply online.

The DoD HAP has been providing financial assistance to military personnel and DoD civilians since 1966, mainly at base realignment and closure (BRAC) sites where government action caused a decrease in market home values. While the HAP expansion is not designed to pay 100 percent of losses or to cover all declines in value, it can help protect eligible applicants from financial catastrophe due to significant losses in their home values.

Supporting military families is one of administration's highest priorities and includes leadership and engagement by Michelle Obama and Jill Biden. In February 2009, Congress provided ARRA funding for a temporary expansion of the HAP to address unique economic

pressures faced by military personnel who are forced to relocate during these unusually adverse housing market conditions. After conducting an extensive analysis to determine how best to prioritize the finite funds available while maximizing assistance to as many people as possible, the DoD developed specific eligibility criteria designed to take care of people in the greatest need. These program details have been published in the Federal Register and are now available for public comment.

ARRA funding allows the DoD to temporarily expand HAP to partially reimburse losses from the sale of a primary residence in the following priority order:

1. Homeowners wounded, injured, or ill in the line of duty while deployed since Sept. 11, 2001, and relocating in furtherance of medical treatment;
2. Surviving spouse homeowners relocating within two years after the death of their spouse;
3. Homeowners affected by the 2005 BRAC round, without the need (which existed under previous law) to prove that a base closure announcement caused a local housing market decline; and
4. Service member homeowners receiving orders dated on or after Feb. 1, 2006, through Dec. 31, 2009, for a permanent change of station (PCS) move. The orders must specify a report-no-later-than date on or before Feb. 28, 2010, to a new duty station or home port outside a 50-mile radius of the service member's former duty station. These dates may be extended to Sept. 30, 2012, based on availability of funds.

Each of these general categories has more specific eligibility requirements which have been updated at the DoD HAP Web site. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers executes the program for all the military branches and HAP administrators will immediately start processing applications.





# NAVY ForMoms.com

## Welcomes its 25,000th Member

From NRC Public Affairs

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** – NAVYForMoms.com reached another milestone with the arrival of its 25,000th member on Sept. 8.

NAVYForMoms.com continues to grow quickly, with an average of 517 new people joining each week, and it continues to be a valuable resource for folks who support Sailors or have children or friends considering joining the United States Navy. The social networking Web site contains discussion forums, blogs, and chat capabilities, and even enables Navy families to meet face-to-face at organized events. There is so much information on the site that even those thinking about enlisting, themselves, are logging on.

In March 2008, Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) launched NAVYForMoms.com in response to research that found many parents have questions about what life in the Navy is really like and are searching for

candid answers from families who have experienced it firsthand. Members contribute to more than 6,000 discussion forums, lending advice and support to each other in times of uncertainty. Many also show their pride in their Sailors by posting pictures of them at graduation and during visits home, as well as videos of their Sailors reaching milestones like graduation from boot camp. Members have posted more than 90,000 photos and nearly 700 videos in the past year and a half.

NAVYForMoms.com puts potential Navy parents in touch with parents of young men and women who are already serving. The online community gives prospective Navy moms a place to gather accurate information, share stories and gain support from their peers. Six percent of new NAVYForMoms.com members have a friend or family member who is thinking about joining the Navy but has not yet enlisted.





Brenda Sue Bourque of Nederland, Texas, joined NAVYForMoms.com in honor of her son, Derek, who is serving as a master at arms. "NAVYForMoms.com has grown into an incredible family filled with pride for our Sailors," Bourque said. "I found the site shortly after my son graduated from boot camp and it's been such a treat to connect with moms across the country who are going through the same experiences as I am. I've even traveled to see my NAVYForMoms.com friends and take part in events they've held to support our Sailors including a Memorial Day barbeque during New York's Fleet Week."

Members like Bourque have formed nearly 900 groups on the site where they can connect with others who share common interests like their Sailor's rates, where they're from, and even hobbies like scrapbooking. "Boot Camp Moms" and "Great Lakes A School Q&A" are among the most popular groups. Both tackle the tough questions some members have toward the beginning of their Sailors' careers. Many members of various groups organize their own events to meet each other in person and strengthen their bonds.

"NAVYForMoms.com has brought the Navy family closer together while providing the support and information potential Navy parents and current Navy families need," said Rear Adm. Robin Braun, former commander, NRC. "The Web site's evolution from a source of knowledge to a sisterhood is a testament to the value and strength of the community and we are thrilled to announce that we have connected more than 25,000 members."

In addition to providing a place for folks to discuss the Navy, NAVYForMoms.com has also been instrumental in bringing Navy families together in person. The Web site has held "Paint the Town Blue" events in places like Boston, New York, Dallas, and Oklahoma City, giving members a chance to meet each other face-to-face and express their Navy pride. NAVYForMoms.com also arranged for surprise reunions between Sailors and their mothers at New York sporting events and members even had the opportunity to attend tapings of "Live! With Regis and Kelly" and "The Late Show with David Letterman."



# *Siblings Go* **TANDEM** *into Navy Boot Camp*

**By Chris Casey, Greeley Tribune**

**GREELEY, Co.** – The turning of the calendar from August to September was when everything changed for the Sanchez family of Evans. You could say that's when they shifted to military time.

Alexandra Sanchez, 21, signed up for the U. S. Navy early in the year and was to leave for boot camp on Sept. 1. A couple months later, her older brother, Matthew, 23, followed suit and was slated for departure next March.

They had hoped to go to camp together, but given their different recruitment dates and assignments — Alexandra was headed for an aviation ordnanceman post and Matthew sought hospital corpsman training — it didn't look promising.

But then came a surprising call on Aug. 31. A Navy representative asked Matthew if he could be ready to go to boot camp the next day.

"It was pretty much just a miracle that we got to ship out the on the same day," Alexandra said in a phone interview from camp. "It was almost tears of joy."

It also stirred sudden emotions for their parents, Sylvia and Joshua Sanchez, who watched Alexandra and Matthew leave on Sept. 1 for eight and one-half weeks boot camp near Chicago.

"It was kind of bittersweet," Sylvia said of the unexpected call, "but at the same time, he was excited to get to go with her."



The chain of Navy personnel behind the change in Matthew's itinerary started with (Aviation Support Equipment Technician 1st Class) Petty Officer Dustin Huckfeldt, lead recruiter at the Evans recruitment office. Huckfeldt wanted to move things along faster, noting that it's never too soon to start on your future.

"I think a lot of people (in the Navy), because they were brother and sister, were really trying to get them to ship at the same time," Huckfeldt said.

A pipeline of family members entering the military isn't uncommon, he said, but it is rather unusual for a brother and sister to enter boot camp in tandem.

Seth Sanchez, cousin to Alexandra and Matthew, has also joined the Navy and will go to boot camp next spring. Seth, 18, got interested after Alexandra signed on.

Alexandra, Matthew and Seth all graduated from Greeley West High School. After high school, Alexandra went to Las Vegas and worked as a restaurant hostess for nine months. Matthew attended Aims Community College for a while and began thinking of a career in a medical field. When Alexandra looked into joining the Navy, Matthew went along on one of her visits to the recruitment office.



Not only did brother and sister Alexandra and Matthew Sanchez of Evans, Co., leave for boot camp in Great Lakes, Ill., on the same day, they're also scheduled to graduate on the same day and carry flags at the graduation ceremony. (Photo courtesy of the Sanchez family)

Sylvia remembers the day. "I said, 'Matthew, you're not planning to join the service as well?' He just laughed and said, 'Mom, I'm just looking into it.' Then one day, he came home and said, 'Mom, you'll never believe it.'"

Mother's intuition told her what was coming. Although she was about to see another child ship off — another daughter, Savannah, is a junior at Greeley West, but so far she isn't eyeing the military — Sylvia was happy for her son and his renewed sense of direction.

"Matthew, being the older brother, is very protective of both of his sisters," Sylvia said. "Everything goes through them, I think, before it goes to mom and dad. I'm sure they had this (Navy plan) all talked out between them before they told either one of us about their plans."

During their intensive boot-camp schedule, Alexandra and Matthew were granted a short break to chat with me by phone.

They are both excited by the career and travel prospects the Navy offers. Besides Matthew and Seth, Alexandra pointed two friends toward the Navy. For all the referrals, she enters as an E3 recruit, meaning she earns about \$350 more a month than an E1.

I asked what it's like to go through boot camp with a sibling.

Matthew: "We see each other in passing, sir, but that's about it."

Alexandra: "I know my brother's going through the same things I'm going through, sir."

Matthew: "We're in it together. It's just reassuring."

After boot camp, Matthew will stay in Chicago for schooling, while Alexandra will go to Florida for training. Their initial commitments to the Navy are five years and four years, respectively.

Both Sanchezes will carry flags as part of their camp graduation ceremony, which their family will attend in Chicago.

Sarah King, public affairs officer for the recruitment training center, said it's unusual for a brother-sister combination to carry flags in the same boot camp ceremony.

"It's interesting they both shipped (to camp) the same day and are scheduled to graduate the same day," King said. "That is pretty rare."

Back home in Evans, Sylvia is caring for Alexandra's dog, Laney, and waiting for her first call from her two boot campers.

She's a proud Navy parent. But, being a mom who's well aware of the world's dangers, she has some worry.

"I feel like it just comes with the territory," she said. "I think that's how life goes. We pray through our life and hope that all goes well."

*Reprinted with permission by the Greeley Tribune.*





# NAVY REC





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THE YEAR IN REVIEW



# NRD Philadelphia

## Sailors

### Attend NFL Military Appreciation Days

*Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Nick Kaylor, NRD Philadelphia Public Affairs*

**PHILADELPHIA** – Sailors from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Philadelphia, along with other service members in the Philadelphia and Baltimore areas, attended military appreciation days at the Philadelphia Eagles and Baltimore Ravens training camps Aug. 6 and 19. The Eagles held their event at Lehigh University in Lehigh Valley, Pa., while the Ravens held theirs at McDaniel College in Westminster, Md.

Service members were able to watch the football teams practice from designated areas. At the end of each practice, coaches Andy Reid with the Eagles and John Harbaugh with the Ravens invited all uniformed military personnel to join the players on the field for the closing huddle and a meet-and-greet with players and coaches. Players signed autographs and posed for photos while praising the military members for all that they do.

“We thank you for everything you do,” said coach Harbaugh at the Ravens camp. “We can’t thank you enough.”

Wearing a camouflage hat with the word “Surge” on it, Harbaugh was the last Raven off the field after signing autographs and taking photos with the servicemen and women. Safety Ed Reed was a close second.

“I’m sure it is special,” said linebacker Tony Fein who served one year of duty in Iraq as a 19 Delta reconnaissance scout with the Army. “They do a lot of work for us. Coach Harbaugh preaches how hard they work overseas. We’re very appreciative of what those guys do, and I know firsthand.”



Chief Yeoman Erica Grubb was able to meet Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver Kevin Curtis during festivities at the Eagles’ military appreciation day. The football players and coaches spent time with military members to express their gratitude for the work they do every day.

The big military presence also struck an emotional chord with Ravens cornerback Domonique Foxworth because his father served 20 years in the Army. “It was a tremendous opportunity for us to show our appreciation for the sacrifices they’ve made,” Foxworth said. “There’s no way we can really show them how grateful we are. I know a portion of the sacrifices they’ve made, what their families and children go through. We’re really grateful to spend time with them.”

Lt. Kevin Cooney grew up in the Philly area and has always been an Eagles fan.

“I can’t tell you how happy I am to be here and meet these guys. How hospitable they are to have us here in the huddle, sticking around after practice to sign signatures for us. It was just amazing and it’s something that I’m always going to remember,” he said.



Despite the heat and being tired after a long practice, Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb signed as many autographs as physically possible. "I'm getting dizzy. Don't worry, I'm coming back around," laughed McNabb as he turned in circles signing whatever was put in front of him.

Both teams showed a great admiration for everything the military does and the military members look forward to more events like these in the future.



"Look high! Look high!" screamed one McNabb fan. "Okay, okay, I've got you," answered McNabb as he reached up and signed his picture in the team program.

Many players talked about what it's like to play professional football and their personal lives. Wide receiver Hank Baskett, recently married to Kendra Wilkinson, Playboy Playmate and one of the stars of "The Girls Next Door," answered questions about football and married life.

Eagles' kicker David Akers talked to fans about the pressure of kicking in the NFL and the adjustments he made as a soccer player transitioning to football.



Baltimore Ravens safety Ed Reed signs an autograph for Navy Counselor 1st Class Jeremy Reter at their recent military appreciation day. Other military members anxiously wait their turn for their autographs.



Remember some of these Navy recruiting slogans? Surely you can associate one of these tag lines when you decided the Navy was your path to personal success. Now sit back, read on, and reminisce...

**"Join the Navy and See the World"** (circa WWII) This was a recruiting poster tag line not an ad slogan, but it was well remembered.

**"Be Someone Special"** Grey Advertising (1973-75)

**"Navy. It's Not Just A Job, It's An Adventure"** Bates Advertising (1976-86)

**"Live The Adventure"** Bates Advertising (1986-88)

**"You Are Tomorrow You Are The Navy"** BBDO (1988-1990)

**"You and the Navy Full Speed Ahead"** BBDO (1990-96)

**"Let The Journey Begin"** BBDO (1996-2000)

**"Navy Accelerate Your Life"** Campbell-Ewald (2001-2009)

**"America's Navy – A global force for good."** Campbell-Ewald (2009 - Present)





# CADETS WELCOMED BACK TO SCHOOL

*Story and photo by Lt. Jeffrey S. Gray, Naval Service Training Command, Navy City Outreach, Chicago*

**CHICAGO** – When Navy Junior Reserve Officers Corps (NJROTC) cadets at the Hyman G. Rickover Naval Academy and William H. Taft High School went back to school on Sept. 8, they were treated to words of encouragement and inspiration from the Navy's head recruiter.

Rear Adm. Robin R. Braun, former commander, Navy Recruiting Command, spent time at both schools talking to cadets about the importance of staying in school, developing the right attitude, and striving to make a difference in their respective communities.

"This truly was an inspirational day for me," said Braun. "It renewed my commitment to supporting our nation's schools and

mentoring our young Americans. Clearly, our NJROTC programs provide wonderful opportunities for students to learn about leadership and develop qualities that will serve them well as adults. These students are our future — I was truly inspired by their dedication and commitment to excellence."

Beginning her day at Rickover, Braun participated in the school's opening convocation where she provided remarks to the entire cadet battalion, teachers, Navy instructors, and

staff at the school. "It's an honor and privilege to be here at the start of the school year," commented Braun. "I've heard a lot of great things about this school and challenge you to exceed the accomplishments of last year's first graduating class."



Rear Adm. Robin Braun (right) was able to go one-on-one with NJROTC cadets at the Hyman G. Rickover Naval Academy, one of two Chicago schools that she visited at the beginning of the school year, to offer her encouragement on career paths.

Braun encouraged freshmen at Rickover to look up to the juniors and seniors. She said, "Look to your upperclassmen for leadership and guidance — find a mentor. Sophomores and juniors, start thinking like seniors in terms of looking for opportunities to show your leadership skills. Seniors, look at all possible opportunities to further your education."

Braun also challenged sophomore and junior cadets to "Keep active and participate in all kinds of extracurricular activities. Start padding your resumes for post high school education, or whatever career path you choose to take."

During the ceremony, Braun had the distinct opportunity to present three of Rickover's cadets with the highest award bestowed to an NJROTC cadet, the Meritorious Achievement Award. The award was presented to cadets Kenneth Crook, Mikel Sierra, and Christopher St. Clair



for their quick response in providing aid and comfort to a man who was convulsing from a seizure on the street and needed immediate medical attention.

After the opening-day ceremony, Braun took a tour of the school's facilities, met with faculty and staff, and spent time interacting with cadets. She was quite interested in finding out why the cadets choose to attend Rickover rather than attending their neighborhood high school.

"The best thing about attending this school is the structure and discipline," said Rickover's cadet battalion commander Karla Gutierrez. "Rickover has goals and expectations for its cadets that the neighborhood high schools don't have for their students. At Rickover they give us responsibilities for leading and managing other cadets. They don't treat us like children."

"The major thing we emphasize to both parents and students who are looking to attend our school is that we are a military academy, which means we're an educational environment that provides structure and discipline, along with a college prep curriculum," said Michael Biela, Rickover's superintendent. "We are not a military school for students with discipline problems."

Unique among its peer institutions within the Chicago public schools, Rickover has climbed to the top of the school districts' high school rankings and garnered a reputation for innovative teaching, with its physics-first approach to teaching science to freshmen instead of the normal sequence of biology, chemistry, and physics. Rickover has only been in existence for four short years.

Before leaving Rickover for the 25-minute drive to Taft High School, Braun spoke fondly of the excitement in the students' eyes and enthusiasm in their voices as they talked about their experiences at Rickover. She said, "The cadets here have clearly been inspired by the faculty and teaching staff and the many extra-curricular opportunities available to them. Their enthusiasm for leadership and learning is contagious. I am confident these young Americans will move on to do great things in their communities, across our nation and around the world."

She continued, "These students are motivated to learn, feel ownership to make their school the best, and are so appreciative of the opportunities they've been given. I also loved the upper classmen's dedication and commitment to leading and training in incoming class. It was leadership in action."

On arrival at Taft, Braun was greeted by the school's long-time senior Navy instructor, Lt. Cmdr. Paul Muffler, and the NJROTC unit's cadet executive officer, Lindsey Ryan. Muffler and Ryan escorted Braun to the school's auditorium where approximately 160 of the unit's sophomores, juniors, and seniors awaited the admiral's arrival. Taking the

stage, Braun personalized her presentation by using her experiences growing up in Las Vegas in a single-parent household where her mother worked two jobs and Braun looked after her younger brother.

Braun spoke to the assembled group about her decision to attend a college close to home at Northern Arizona University so she could stay near her family. However, she quickly realized after graduation and sitting at a desk in an office at her first job that there had to be something greater she could do with her life and career. "I remember I was at my father's house one day and noticed a magazine that was highlighting naval aviators," Braun recalled. "My dad was a Navy pilot during Korea, and I had an interest in being a pilot myself. So I decided to apply to become a naval aviator and attend Aviation Officers Candidate School."

"Getting through Officer Candidate School was tough," she continued. "To get through, I knew I had to develop the right attitude. While some of my peers took the school day by day, my attitude was to take the challenge meal by meal. When I felt like giving up, I'd tell myself I can make it through to lunch. Lunch would come and go and the relief of having gotten through another meal gave me confidence."

By chance, Braun's visit provided a unique perspective to a special group of cadets. "This year is the first time we've ever had when the battalion senior staff is all female," Muffler said. "Having Rear Adm. Braun come in and spend time with our cadets, especially the young women, was a tremendous opportunity for them."

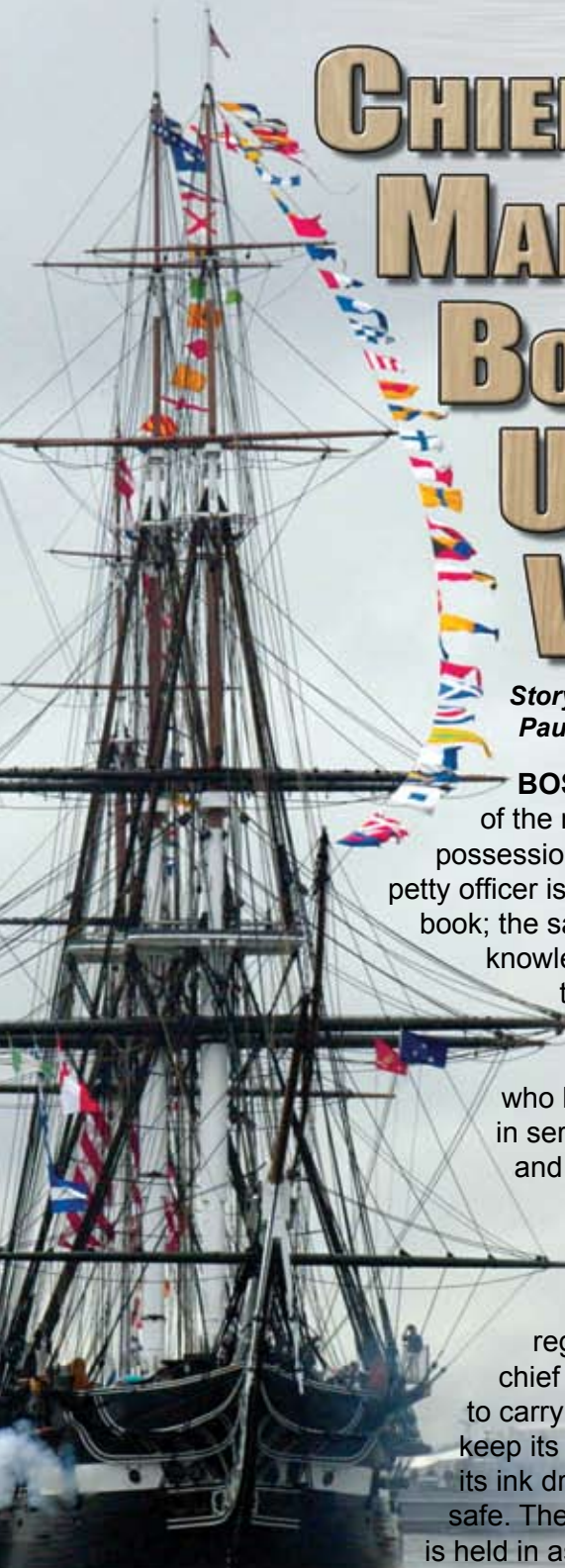
Interested in finding out more about her experiences Cadet Battalion Commander Tracy Soto asked Braun, "In your 30-year career, what was the toughest experience you've had to face?"

Immediately, Braun recalled her experience at officer candidate school. "One day my fellow classmate, who was also female, got sick and I was the only woman doing physical training with the male candidates. I needed to keep up with the guys, and did so. That was one of my toughest experiences, but I got through it."

Inspired by her school visits and the interaction with cadets and school staff, Braun believes engaging and connecting by other Navy representatives can have a far-reaching effect on these future leaders. "Through engagement of this kind, Navy leadership provides cadets with a wealth of experience and a global perspective," said Braun. "Our leadership can share their unique and personal success stories. I believe engagement has the ability to help inspire these students to stay in school and pursue their dreams for the future."





A large, multi-masted sailing ship, the USS Constitution, is shown from the side, with its complex rigging and numerous colorful signal flags flying from the masts. The ship is dark-hulled with a white upper section.

# CHIEF SELECTEES MAKE CHARGE BOOK BOXES FROM USS *Constitution* WOOD

Story and photos by Chief Mass Communication Specialist (AW)  
Paul DeLaughter, NRD New England Public Affairs



**BOSTON** – One of the most prized possessions of a chief petty officer is the charge book; the sacred tome of knowledge gained from the hard work and experiences of all chiefs who have gone before in service to the Navy and our country.

This book, in fact, is held in such high regard that every chief constructs a box to carry it in; a vessel to keep its bindings new, its ink dry and its secrets safe. Therefore, this box is held in as much esteem as the book itself. It is a treasure chest of sorts.

The chief's mess from Navy Recruiting District (NRD) New England recently joined forces with the chief's mess from USS *Constitution* for this year's Chief Petty Officer Induction Season. With this union, Boston's crop of new chiefs was afforded an unexpected and very generous gift: Housing their charge books in boxes constructed with wood from *Constitution*, the very symbol of the American Navy.

"It's an honor. It's tying you to the very beginnings of the Navy," said Chief Navy Counselor (AW) Andrew Ellis, one of NRD New England's newly-pinned chief petty officers. "It's not only history for me, it's American history."

*Constitution* is currently undergoing a major overhaul, according to Chief Master-at-Arms (SW) Manoj Ram, *Constitution* crewmember who went through this year's transition with NRD New England. Ram said that this is the first large-scale refurbishment since 1931.

Ram said wood around the ship is regularly replaced when damaged. However, due to the overhaul, enough wood was available for all eight of the new chiefs to use for the construction of their charge boxes.

"It was awesome just to find out we were going to be able to use the *Constitution's* wood shop to make our boxes, then we found out we were going to use wood from the ship... we are taking a little bit of history here," said Chief Navy Counselor (SW/SCW) Angela Cullivan, a recruiter from Springfield, Mass., and new chief. "Not many people can say they have a piece of Old Ironsides," she said.

"Using the wood from the *Constitution* is really symbolic of the long-standing traditions of the Navy and the durability of those transitions," said Chief Electronics Technician (SS) Arturo Placencia, a special warfare scout based in Portsmouth, N.H.



"When I went through transition last year, I was allowed the opportunity to spend a week on the *Constitution* and I think it really brought home the sense of heritage we have as a service. I was lucky to just visit the ship; these guys get to have a piece of her forever."

The box is a direct reflection of how much effort was put into its construction according to Placencia. "It's not just a way to protect what is inside, but it is also a way to display pride in what a person has accomplished by being allowed to make it."

This year's transition coordinator, Senior Chief Navy Counselor (SS) James King, a chief officer recruiter based out of Hamden, Conn., made his box out of plywood in his backyard eight years ago. "My box has significance to me because I made it myself. I didn't use any special materials but every piece was put together by me," he said. "I think every chief's box is significant to them for various reasons, even if they made it in their backyard like I did. These guys...I think, will display their boxes with even more pride."

"The Navy is based on a lot of traditions and I feel that as a chief petty officer the charge book is the one tradition that is the most valuable," stated Placencia. "In that box, in that book, is all the knowledge passed down from chief generation to chief generation. Some of it great, some of it not so good, but there is a lesson to be learned from all of it."

According to King, it is common knowledge among chief petty officers that the first year after pinning is the "true" transition period. It is doubtful that they will know for quite some time how symbolic their boxes are.

"I don't think it will really hit them until someone walks into their office and says, 'Hey that looks pretty cool, where did you get that?'" commented King. "When they are describing how they made it is when they are going to get that chill down the back of their spine. 'Wow, my box came from the USS *Constitution*.'"



Wood from the USS *Constitution* is being cut by then Chief-Selectee Navy Counselor (AW) Jide Azeez, a recruiter from NRS Boston, to construct his charge box.



Then Chief-Selectee Navy Counselor (SW/SCW) Sean Murphy, a recruiter from NRS Plymouth, Mass., proudly displays his charge box constructed with wood from the USS *Constitution*. With the ship undergoing refurbishment, scrap wood was made available for the Boston area FY10 chief petty officer selectees to use in the construction of their charge boxes.







# NRD Pittsburgh's *Bastien Excels at Triathlon*

*Story and photo by MCC (AW/SW) Jeremy J. Siegrist, NRD Pittsburgh Public Affairs*

**PITTSBURGH** – Maintaining a lifestyle of fitness requires goal setting, and for one zone supervisor at Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Pittsburgh, the culmination of his goal was achieved in the hot summer Pennsylvanian sun.

On July 18, Navy Career Counselor (SW) Ryan Bastien completed the Catfish Triathlon in Harrisburg, Pa., with a 1:26:15 finishing time and ninth overall position in his age group.

Bastien normally works out at least three days a week in accordance with Chief of Naval Operations guidance. But to prepare for this race, he trained with a regimen of 2,000 yard-swims and 100-150 miles a week on his bike.

"I've always been a swimmer and cross-country runner since high school. It has been a lifelong routine, and even a goal of mine to stay physically fit. It's especially important in today's Navy," said Bastien.

Throughout his entire Navy career, Bastien has found time to stay physically fit and believes the triathlon and being in shape is simply leadership by example. "I've definitely noticed the effect it has on my recruiters, even so much so that the recruiters I am in charge of have talked about doing a triathlon themselves, or even a group triathlon," he stated.

Starting from his work as a swim coach at the Carlisle, Pa., swim club and learning from other parents that one of the local triathlon events needed volunteers, Bastien immediately responded. The Catfish Triathlon is the second one this year that Bastien's zone volunteered at, even bringing along Delayed Entry Program personnel to observe.

"Allowing these kids to see that being in the Navy requires good health and fitness gives them perspective on what it takes to be in the Navy and starts them on the road to good habits that can pay benefits for a lifetime," said Bastien.

Wearing Navy 'pride' gear, NRD Pittsburgh recruiters arrived in the early morning, pre-dawn hours to assist athletes with registration.

"The athletes here range in all ages and types, from the professional guys with the two thousand dollar bikes, to the guys who look like they woke up one morning and decided to run a triathlon," said Chief Machinist's Mate Archie Martin. "One of the things about being here, though, is everyone is happy we are here, and we receive a lot of thanks and handshakes for helping out and volunteering," Martin continued.

In addition to basic registration, NRD Pittsburgh personnel walked the course to remove any possible hazards to the runners, stood timing checkpoints, and even manned the motorcycle behind the last of the bicyclists and runners to ensure no one went astray.

"We were an integral part of the whole day, and we were glad to do it. I am really looking forward to the next one we do as a group. Everyone was grateful we were there and it's very inspiring and even motivating to be around people pushing themselves physically like this," said Cryptologist Technician 2nd Class Diane Lahr.

Keeping engaged in the community and increasing Navy awareness, as well as cultivating fitness



throughout the command, the whole event was heralded as an unqualified success throughout the chain of command.

"Recruiters come into recruiting in shape but the high-stress job and the demands that this challenging set of orders puts on them takes its toll. Regular exercise and a workout routine helps in everything from stress to just in general make you feel better. To have Chief [Bastien] out there leading the way is a great thing not only for our Sailors, but for the command as a whole," said NRD Pittsburgh Command Master Chief Gerald Coulson.

"I think next time he should win it though," Coulson said with a smile.



NRD Pittsburgh zone supervisor Navy Career Counselor (SW) Ryan Bastien completed the Catfish Triathlon in Harrisburg, Pa., with a time of 1:26:15, putting him in ninth overall position for his age group.



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# USS CARNEY HELPS KICK OFF 400TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

*Story by Lt. j.g. Nicholas Kalman,  
Navy Office of Information, East  
Photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist  
Eric Durie, NRD New York Public Affairs*

**NEW YORK** – USS *Carney* (DDG 64) was featured in a parade of modern and historic ships along the Hudson River Sept. 8 and kicked off a weeklong series of events to mark the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's arrival in New York City.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg welcomed Dutch royalty on the flight deck of the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum as part of the ceremony, which also included NATO vessels, Dutch naval frigates and a replica of Henry Hudson's ship the Half Moon.

"It was an honor to be part of a celebration 400 years in the making," said *Carney* Commanding Officer Cmdr. Brendan McLane. "We're now looking forward to a great week in one of the best cities in the world."

*Carney* is equipped with some of the world's most sophisticated weaponry and was open to the public for free tours. The Arleigh Burke-class destroyer and her crew of about 280 Sailors were in New York City to commemorate the anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.



The guided-missile destroyer USS *Carney* (DDG 64) arrives in New York. *Carney* was visiting New York as part of NY400 Week, a celebration of 400 years of Dutch-American friendship.



# WHO IS ONLINE?

Everyone is! Or so it seems.  
Being online requires  
common sense. Remember when  
you go online keep these  
important points in mind...

## DO:

- Register your command social media sites in the Navy's social media directory located at: [www.navy.mil/media/smd.asp](http://www.navy.mil/media/smd.asp)
- Become a fan of Commander, Navy Recruiting Command's Facebook page
- Identify yourself
- Maintain privacy
- Be factual
- Admit mistakes
- Use sound judgement

## DON'T:

- Post classified information
- Pretend to be someone else
- Go on the offensive
- Breach copyrights and trademarks
- Endorse non-Navy entities

Consider establishing an account separate from your personal accounts when utilizing social media networks in an official recruiting capacity in order to maintain your personal privacy.



# LinkedIn





# Cmdr. Garren Assumes Command at



## NRD Atlanta

Story and photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Roderick C. Jessie, NRD Atlanta Public Affairs

**STONE MOUNTAIN, Ga.** – Cmdr. Bill Garren relieved Cmdr. Julie L. Parsons as commanding officer, Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Atlanta, becoming their 21st commanding officer.

In the ceremony at Stone Mountain Park, he stated, “Wow, commanding officer of the number one recruiting district in the nation! I have been blessed. I am proud to be able to lead such a great group of Sailors. Many of you have heard that many changes are coming after today. That’s news to me, so please let me know what they are so I can see if I like them and put them into place.”

NRD Atlanta closed out fiscal 2008 as “Most Improved District.” Garren knew that if NRD Atlanta was going to reach its goal of being number one, changes had to continue. “Actually changes that I envisioned went in place right after the previous CO took command and we have been working and improving on them every day,” said Garren.

As a prior chief, Garren understands that teamwork is the essential key to success, and that the Navy is only as good as the people who serve in it. Being able to meet and overcome challenges separates the best of the best. “I want you to understand that there are people that want to figure out how to even

the playing field so that we are not so far ahead of our competition. There’s a thought that if the rules change it would even things out. I know that at NRD Atlanta it is not the rules that make us number one, it is the people. You are doing great and whatever is thrown our way, we will not only survive but continue to remain on top during these challenges,” said Garren.



Cmdr. Bill Garren (left) relieves Cmdr. Julie L. Parsons as NRD Atlanta’s commanding officer. Looking on are Commodore, Navy Recruiting Region East, Capt. Steven T. Miller (far right), guest speaker, and Cmdr. David R. Brown, Navy Recruiting Region East Program Officer (center back), who delivered the invocation and benediction. Parson’s son, Midshipman Reilly Parsons (back to camera), stands at attention while family, friends, and guests witness the event.

The event also marked the retirement of Parsons, capping off 22 years of service. Parsons now resides in New Orleans, La., with her husband Kenneth.







Navy Recruiting District Nashville Sailors manned the Navy SEAL Accelerator demonstration at the 20th annual Southern Heritage Classic football game in Memphis. The SEAL Accelerator allows participants to test themselves against the SEALs standards for push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups and climbing a rope ladder. This year's crowd numbered over 43,300 who witnessed Tennessee State University in Nashville beat Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss., 14-7. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (AW) Christopher D. Blachly, NRC)



Senior Chief Explosive Ordnance Technician Dave Prasek plays catch with a student from Tennessee State University while wearing an explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) protective suit at the 20th annual Southern Heritage Classic. Prasek delivered the game coin to the 50-yard line with an EOD robot. Although this was the first year for Navy Recruiting Command to participate, Sailors were an integral part of the event, including the halftime presentation of \$180,000 checks to 10 recipients symbolizing the value of their NROTC scholarships. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (AW) Christopher D. Blachly, NRC)



# na@ap

## CONFERENCE



*Story and photo by Dan Puleio, NRD Denver Public Affairs*

**Denver** – Members of Navy Personnel Command and Navy Recruiting District Denver joined Navy guests and locally-assigned active, reserve and retired officers in promoting Navy training and career opportunities at the 2009 National Association of Asian-American Professionals (NAAAP) Conference in Denver.

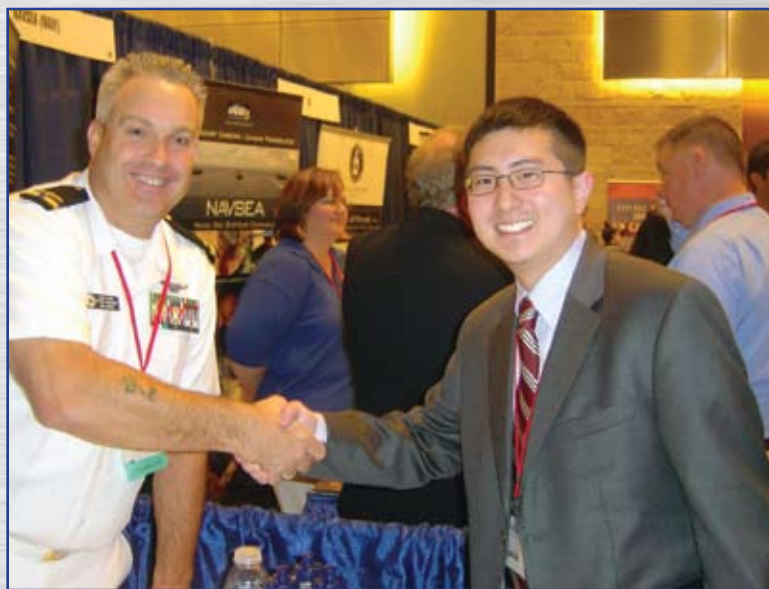
The conference featured a two-day career fair, dinner and luncheon with guest speakers, and a number of seminars focusing on the organization's theme "Leadership at New Heights...Cultivating Leaders for Today and Beyond." In direct support of this theme, the Navy was invited to chair one of the seminars. Rear Adm. (select) Ron J. MacLaren, a Navy Reservist, was joined by the Navy liaison to the National Security Agency, Jerome Rapin, and local Asian and Pacific Islander heritage officers for a panel discussion titled, "From Navy Officer to Chief Executive Officer...How the Navy Accelerated my (Civilian) Career."

As seminar chair, MacLaren interspersed many leadership quotes and observations into his life's story. He described the challenge of being awarded a Navy ROTC scholarship at the University of Southern California since his mother was from North Korea, now a communist regime. Would his loyalties be to America? MacLaren stated, "What the scholarship interviewers did not know was that mom was a 'hard-core capitalist.' Her philosophies were a driving force that shaped my life."

He used the Navy leadership skills he learned as a Supply Corps officer in his transition to civilian hospital administration, rising to the position of president and chief executive officer. "From beans and bullets, to bedpans and syringes," according to MacLaren.

The audience was fully engaged as this masterful speaker captured their attention with humor, leadership quotes and compelling life story.

"The Navy taught me a higher calling. It was not about me anymore, but about the team. I learned critical thinking and analysis; to see matters as opportunities not problems; that there is more than one way to accomplish an objective; that we manage things and lead people." Due to his close association with the Seabees operating with the Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Force, MacLaren adopted their battle cry "Can Do" as his personal motto.



Warrant Officer David Irving, NRD Denver Officer Programs Recruiter Chief, greets one of the many attendees at the National Association of Asian American Professionals.

He closed with a quote from Lao Tzu, the founder of Taoism: "A leader is best when people barely know he exists, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say, 'We did it ourselves.'"

NAAAP Colorado Chapter President Jie ("Jay") Zheng stated, "I am pleased that the Navy made the initial overture to partner with our organization. The Navy's mission and vision for their people dovetail so well with that of NAAAP that a mutually supportive, long-term professional relationship is a natural fit."





# Best Stations in the Nation



## Large

### August

NRS Robinson (NRD Pittsburgh)  
NRS Tacoma Mall (NRD Seattle)

### September

NRS Elk Grove (NRD San Francisco)  
NRS Lakeworth (NRD Miami)

## Medium

### August

NRS Eastport (NRD Portland)  
NRS South DeKalb (NRD Atlanta)

### September

NRS Canton (NRD Ohio)  
NRS Guam (NRD Los Angeles)

## Small

### August

NRS Schenectady (NRD New England)  
NRS Sheboygan (NRD Chicago)

### September

NRS Aberdeen (NRD Seattle)  
NRS Preston Highway (NRD Ohio)

# Admiral's Five-Star Recruiters



## NRD Atlanta

AO2 David Harris  
GSM2 Sadiki James  
OS2 Chandra Perry  
EN2 Charles Shubert  
EO2 Evanthyony Stevenson

## NRD Chicago

AE2 Steven Debauch  
SK2 William Jones II  
MM2 Donald Shelton

## NRD Houston

MNC Renier Sudul

## NRD Jacksonville

OS2 Darrel Mooney  
EM2 Tony Washington

## NRD Los Angeles

HM2 Franklin Agoun  
CS1 Cristopher Ganaden  
AM2 Mark Partin  
GSM2 Hugh Tran  
IC1 Van Tran  
EN2 Fabricio Villacis

## NRD Miami

SH2 Eric Freeman  
AE1 Cesar PinaRivera  
YN2 Brendan Wehmann

## NRD Michigan

AO2 Christopher Benedict  
PC2 Brent Lough  
AZ2 James Perry

## NRD Minneapolis

HT1 Cody Terrill

## NRD Nashville

FC1 Dominic Bills  
ET2 Joseph Cothen  
AD1 Joseph Fowler  
MMC Joshua Hamby  
SK2 Jarrod Moore  
EM2 Loren Schuchhardt

## NRD New England

ABH2 Eric Scott  
CTR1 Jacob Turner  
CS2 Jason Wozniak  
YN1 Nicholas Zorda

## NRD New Orleans

AME2 Angelarose Berrios  
AO1 Courtney Craig

## NRD New York

AM2 Moataz Ghonem  
IT2 Jimmy Omolade

## NRD Ohio

STG2 John Conley  
AM2 Joshua Heger  
BM1 Eric Keith  
FC2 Jerome Miner  
AO2 Benjamin Porter (2)  
ET1 Brian Wyckoff

## NRD Philadelphia

MM2 Jeffrey Brandow  
OS2 Adam Hamlet  
MA1 Durane Morton

## NRD Phoenix

AD1 Adam Zaroslinski

## NRD Pittsburgh

QM3 Erin Quinlan  
OS2 Richard Smith

## NRD Portland

AO1 Marshall Baker

## NRD Raleigh

AO1 Brian Abeyta  
QM2 Louis Blue  
ABE2 Timothy Crowley  
AT1 Donald Garner  
STG1 Gregg Gatewood  
AG1 Brian Georger  
STG2 Chad Goode  
SK2 Kenneth Hughes (2)

## CS2 Stacy Legette

GM1 Nelson Ramos  
BM1 Michael Thompson

## NRD Richmond

HT1 Ruben Durand

## NRD St. Louis

GM2 Robert Daley  
GM1 Nicholas Heimsoth  
CTR1 Michael Wenzara

## NRD San Diego

MM2 Maverick Bautista  
OS2 Lanney Bonafilia  
EN2 Cory Cumberbatch  
ET2 Dale Mills  
FC2 Raymond Palanca  
PC2 Jason Rhoades

## NRD San Francisco

ABE2 Chad Erwin  
AO2 Mark Everett

## NRD Seattle

CE2 Drew Carlson  
AD1 Jonas Habte  
SK2 Anthony Michalski  
MM2 Elliott Newcomb  
AM2 Eric Peyton  
ET1 Michael Smith  
ET2 Richard Spencer  
STS2 Travis Townsend



1. *Navy Recruiter*, May-June 2009. Photo by MC1 David McKee.
2. *Navy Recruiter* cover photo, March-April 2009. Photo by MCC Jeremy Siegrist.
3. NRD Atlanta Change of Command. Story on page 28. Photo by MC1 Roderick Jessie.
4. *Navy Recruiter*, March-April 2009. Photo by BM1 Chet Mowrey.
5. *Navy Recruiter*, May-June 2009. Photo by Melinda Larson.
6. *Navy Recruiter*, September-October 2009. Photo by Lt. Cmdr. Mike Lewis.
7. *Navy Recruiter*, July-August 2009. Photo by MC1 James Coyle.
8. *Navy Recruiter*, July-August 2009. Photo by MC1 Keith Bryska.
9. *Navy Recruiter*, September-October 2009. Photo by Diane Bujnowski.
10. *Navy Recruiter*, January-February 2009. Photo by MC3 Michael Russell.
11. *Navy Recruiter*, September-October 2009. Courtesy photo.
12. Recruiting poster for America's Navy – A global force for good.



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